

# LOS ANGELES COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

*The Center of Economic Development*

**LAEDC**

*Economic Vitality,  
Trade & Jobs*

April 20, 2005

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APR 21 2005

FCC - MAILROOM

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary  
9300 East Hampton Drive  
Capitol Heights, MD 20743

Re: Re: WC Docket No. 05-65, SBC Communications Inc. and AT&T Corp.  
Applications for Approval of Transfer of Control

The Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation (LAEDC) recommends the Federal Communications Commission to approve the merger between SBC Communications, Inc. and AT&T Corp. This merger will improve SBC's and AT&T's customers' competitive position both locally and in the global marketplace. We would also like the FCC to consider some of the following economic benefits of this merger as well.

In our view, this merger is a perfect blend of the complimentary services of both companies that will continue to stimulate new products and services going forward. SBC is strong with small and medium sized business and residential customers while AT&T is strong with global business and in the enterprise market. The new expanded services of the combined new company should translate into lowers rates for a robust package of services for all customers large and small.

One area of great growth is the data traffic business. This area continues to explode and the merger will only improve the reach and synergy in the new marketplace to the benefit of all customer types. The acquisition will also leverage more communication services between business and residential customers. The big will help the small.

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34th Floor

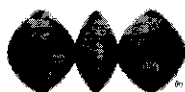
Los Angeles, CA

90071

t: 213.622.4300

f: 213.622.7100

www.laedc.org



WORLD TRADE CENTER ASSOCIATION  
LOS ANGELES - LONG BEACH

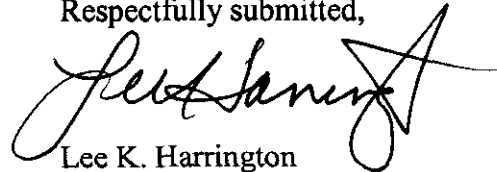
350 South Figueroa St., Suite 172  
Los Angeles, California 90071 USA  
t: 213.680.1888 f: 213.680.1878  
info@wtcanet.org

One World Trade Center, Suite 410  
Long Beach, California 90831 USA  
t: 562.495.6075 f: 562.495.1501  
info@wtcanet.org

One of the biggest areas of economic impact and growth for this industry is voice over Internet protocol (VOIP) services. It is clear that the merger of these two excellent providers will help both of them to compete in this new and robust area of communications. AT&T's global reach further enhances this new evolving technology and should change the meaning of cost effective service. We also need VOIP to move faster to drive down our telecommunications costs without lowering the level of services quality. Again this merger will get at this new service and bring it to everyone.

Again, the Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation recommends approval of the merger between SBC and AT&T.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lee K. Harrington", with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Lee K. Harrington  
President and CEO  
Los Angeles Economic Development  
Corporation